

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2014-0129]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this provides the public notice that by a document dated December 14, 2014, Michigan Southern Railroad Company (MSO) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR Part 223, Safety Glazing Standards–Locomotives, Passenger Cars and Cabooses. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2014-0129.

MSO, located in Peoria, IL, has petitioned FRA for a waiver of compliance for one caboose, specifically Caboose MSO 500006. MSO is a shortline railroad that operates trains at 10 mph or less. MSO 500006 would be used as a shoving platform during reverse moves that extend up to 5 miles in distance within the area of Sturgis, SD. Sturgis is an urban community that had a population of 10,884 in 2012. The shove move originates in the southern portion of the town that is an industrial/rural area and ends at the wye in Sturgis. The shove move spans approximately 12 grade crossings, and the train lengths range from 2 to 5 cars, including the locomotive and caboose. The waiver is sought because the caboose is not used as historically or traditionally intended, and the cost to upgrade the equipment is significant for a shortline railroad. In addition, using the caboose would enhance employee safety.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Web site: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Fax: 202-493-2251.
- Mail: Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590.
- Hand Delivery: 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Room W12-140, Washington, D.C.
 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Communications received by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

3

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and

comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the

comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business,

labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the

public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including

any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described

in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at

www.dot.gov/privacy. See also http://www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice for the

privacy notice of regulations.gov or interested parties may review DOT's complete

Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR

19477).

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 19, 2015.

Ron Hynes,

Director of Technical Oversight.

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